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SUNDAY, SEPT. 15, 1889.

THE LAWLESS TENDENCY.

It is not a pleasant topic, but we d not think the press of the State can perform a more serviceable duty than t bend itsefforts to counteract the tendene manifested within the past few years 1 make light of law, or make its extrem administration at popular pastim Lynch law is an exoticin North Carolina coming on with the importation of man other foreign importations of extreme la manitariam doctrines. For, after al without a doubt, tynch hav relates back to that fantastic renderness for huma life which had its first development in th attempt to abolish capital punishment ending at last in investing the bloodies criminal with the sanctity of the marty or the attributes of the hero, drawing t him the sympathy and the justif eation of men and the adoration silly sentimental women. But molerneat this sickly sensibility, there was a street undercurrent of strong passion which viewed crime in its maked determity, tweighed it in the scales of unadulterate human judgment, and measured by the standard of natural rus ice; to be inecombly punished cording to that standard if the legal authority to whom the dealing wir erime had been formally deligated failed a its duty. It is such failure that has much banch law the popular recourse; an man, by nature a blood thirty anima delights in the power that reverts to hi hand, more ready to exercise it as each additional triumph turnishes new exam ple both of ability to do his own free will indulge his own wild natural passion and escape altogether the consequence of his crime commutted in general, scere

The great danger to society, to law and order, is the quiet submission of the authorities to the distation of the mol-It is taken on trust, that what is donay a body of men in disgnise and in the darkness of the night is the just an righteous expression of the popular semiment; it is accepted as proper reliake to the tribunals of the law, because they do no execute the manufactus of the law withcer tainty, severity and impartiality, and it i assumed that what is done by a multitudcannot be visited by panishment upo any one, or any number of those detected in the perpetration of an act of mob vio lence. This is a mistake which the soon corrected the better. If any one is much to fall a sacrifice for the sins of his c conspirators, then the law is put in the way of resuming its rightful power and influence. Each and all, jointly and in dividually, are equally guilty, and, wher any participant is proven to have been guilty, and receives the punishment meter out by law to a single individual act r crime, then there will be more circumspec tion in engaging in these diabelical con spiracies. They are conspiracies, as conbucted, with all the environments of diguises secreey and darkness. The corspirators are atraid and ashamed to make open avowal of their purpose, and of their deeds. If they have done otherwise, if they plan and strike openly above bourd, then society has reached that point when it needs renovation: the law has sunk to that inefficiency where it needs abrogation; the just time and oc casion for revolution has come.

There is no such crisis in society, or in the laws. The acts to which we refer are those of impatient, lewless, often revenueful bad men. They are men who dare not confront the majesty of the law, men who cannot truthfully assert that they

The title of lawlessness must be turned The legally constituted authorities, must act with vigor and promptness.

We beg to call attention to the adlowing extract from the report of Attorney General Davidson made to Governor Scales, dated December 22, 1888, and by him transmitted to the legislature at its ensuing session. The report is written with Mr. Davidson's usual vigor, clearness and ability

After referring to the administration of Governor Scales as one characterized by general good order throughout the State. and the regular and just administration of justice by the courts, he says;

"I regret, however, to observe that within the last year or two a disposition has been manifested in some localities, by evil or misguided men, to resort to barbarous and wholly mjustifia methods known as 'lynch low' to punish

These methods have, happily for om our people, been hitherto confined to other States whose modest boast it has been to claim for their citizens a monopoly of those virtues which are supposed to represent the highest forms of modern civilization. They can never be justified except in an abnormal condition of so-ciety which does not all conditions of society which does not and never has ex-isted in North Carolina.

"The facilities for the speedy, but hu-mane administration of the law are abundantly ample for all the legitimate demands of social order. * * It is a significant circumstance, usually accompanying these outrages, that those who are engaged in their perpetration usuall-invoke the darkness of the night, the protection of disguises and the association numbers sufficient to guarantee them from danger in the performance of what they would have the world believe was a

The Attorney General then says, as a motive for some of these lynching crimes that there was reason to believe, in one case, that it was instigated by persons really guilty of the offence punished by the mob to divert suspicion from them- kill me.

selves; and, in another, that "one of the ictims of the mob was wholly innocent of the crime charged, but was executed olely because it was feared that he econgnized some of the persons engaged

n the lynching of a fellow prisoner. The Attorney General closes this branel f the report with the following remark

"It will be an evil day for our people then they submit quietly to surrende the orderly administration of the law, a royided by themselves in their constit ion and stretutes, to irresponsible mid-ight mobs."

Aroused by the growing frequency ese unjustifiable mob murders, we look the executive and to the courts to ex cise all diligence in the detection and dishment of the offenders; and, if the arts have been the oversion of offen y includgence of practices that obstruct pair or deny the strict impartial addistriction of justice to the extent of aking punishment uncertain, partial of nattainable, so as to furnish pretext to opular violence, we call upon them t lend their ways. History has many regnant lessons to teach what th oeth Carolina people are capable of do ng with their rulers and their court chen fully convinced that their rights re wantouly denied or trifled with,

In the quiet of everyday life, the rongest man that comes to the front to nake proclamation that human capaciies still have existence, with very fain npression upon us that such is really be fact, is the politician; and we are ap o conclude that all great men have gone efore us, and that it will never be or a to see in our or coming days the Clays. he Websters, the Calhonns of civil fame ethe Napoleons or the Wellingtons (ulitary immortality. Perhaps not to wh exalted degree; nature is slow to re eat and renew such models: But a cast experience has proved that she a either slow nor niggard to supply me cery for above the human average when he occasion calls for it, when the exiger ies of society demand a leader or a delivter, and when it is in such terment a ring all its elements into effervescent ac ecity. Then some man of superior menta itality is sure to be thrown to the top, to e seen at once in his time worth, to be ecognized and accepted spontaneously and instinctively as the man for the isis. Such a one seems to be John airus, leader of the great London strike. all prices, n humble man by birth, a lowly man b coupution, self-educated, self-trained at a man so trained, so skilled, so con o resolute, so sugacious and so ambious as to have brought to confer with im in council, Jord mayors, cardinals shops, magistrates of all kind. Truly he hand-le actions may both be seare s well as respected as he in whose hand my be placed the moulding of new denies for the greatest, most substantial, nd thus far, best ordered empire of

"The white population in Texas in cases more rapidly than the black. In 880 the white population of the State vas 1,197,237, colored, 394,512. In 57 the figures were: White, 1,619,459 lored, 395,576, showing a vast increase the whites, with a trilling increase o he blacks in seven years:

So says an exchange. The statement nade might have been taken hold or le he recent conference of the African Methdist church, to which a report was uade, and manimously adopted, in which it was gravely set forth that from returen have been murdered by the housands in the South, and something must be done to put a stop to this crime egainst God and humanity." Of course orthing but wholesale murder can acount for this wide disparity in the inrease of the races. The assertion made attic report is a good example of a lic

uses of length law than North Carolina We make no boast of our inferiority in he race. The way things are going, we dualt soon be "neck and neck" literally But we wished to call attention to a fact stated by the News and Courier of the 13th, that in the Fourth indicial district of South Carolina four murderers have seen convicted by law, for nurder, three if whom were white. This proves what an be done if the courts will do their buty. As the News and Courier says, the fault is not in the law, but in its morcement." We do not mean to mitigate in the slightest degree our condemintion of lynch law. But it must be admitted that it can urge a pretext for its xereise in the lax administration of the recognized constituted law

It may be witty, it certainly is not wise, to apply to the outrage of a mob execution the trivial name of a "hanging bcc." It urges gross deprayation of sen iment to apply to cruel and cowardly deeds exercised by disguised maiefactors he same pleasantries used in characterzing an innocent popular amusement. It is thoughtle's use of words, but it is langerous conjunction of ideas. We ope the press will learn to disuse and ountenance such levity.

Dr. Parker Prays cream Van-Ola, Rosa ine, Ongaline and Diamond nail powder aving now become the ladies' favorites. at F. L. Jacob's drug store, these popular nanieure articles may always be found. ogether with pocket emery board, orage wood sticks, nail scissors, files and other such requisites. Also a complete ine of drugs and toilet articles, in addi- at tion to the Hebe Soda Fountain from which ice cold drinks are dispensed. Corner Main street and Patton avenue.

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